

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A device for protecting an electronic circuit
2 against electrostatic discharges, the device comprising:
3 a connection terminal linked to one terminal of
4 said electronic circuit,
5 first and second tracks couplable respectively
6 to first and second terminals of an electrical power
7 source, wherein the first track has a higher electrical
8 potential than the second track,
9 a first diode having a cathode linked to the
10 first track and an anode linked to the connection
11 terminal, and
12 a second diode having a cathode linked to the
13 connection terminal and an anode linked to the second
14 track,
15 wherein the first and second diodes are
16 associated with the surface of a substrate, the
17 connection terminal and the first and second tracks
18 carried by said substrate, the connection terminal
19 located above part of at least one of the first and
20 second diodes with respect to the substrate in a
21 direction perpendicular to the surface of the substrate,
22 and part of each of the first and second tracks are at
23 least partially located between said part of at least one

24 of the first and second diodes and the connection
25 terminal.

1 2. The device according to Claim 1, wherein the
2 anode of the first diode is surrounded by the cathode of
3 the first diode in a plane parallel to the surface of the
4 substrate, and wherein the anode of the first diode is
5 linked to the connection terminal by at least a first
6 connection passing through one of the first and second
7 tracks, the first connection being electrically insulated
8 from the first and second tracks.

1 3. The device according to Claim 1, wherein the
2 cathode of the second diode is surrounded by the anode of
3 the second diode in a plane parallel to the surface of
4 the substrate, and wherein the cathode of the second
5 diode is linked to the connection terminal by at least a
6 second connection passing through one of the first and
7 second tracks, the second connection being electrically
8 insulated from the first and second tracks.

1 4. The device according to Claim 1, wherein both
2 diodes are included inside a region corresponding to the
3 projection of the connection terminal onto the surface of
4 the substrate, in the direction perpendicular to the
5 surface of the substrate.

1 5. The device according to Claim 4, wherein the
2 first and second tracks each have respective segments of
3 track length completely located inside a cylinder having
4 the connection terminal as a base and the direction
5 perpendicular to the surface of the substrate as an axis.

1 6. An electrical device comprising an electronic
2 circuit and a device for protecting against electrostatic
3 discharges, the device comprising:

4 a connection terminal linked to one terminal of
5 said electronic circuit,

6 first and second tracks couplable respectively
7 to first and second terminals of an electrical power
8 source, wherein the first track has a higher electrical
9 potential than the second track,

10 a first diode having a cathode linked to the
11 first track and an anode linked to the connection
12 terminal, and

13 a second diode having a cathode linked to the
14 connection terminal and an anode linked to the second
15 track,

16 wherein the first and second diodes are
17 associated with the surface of a substrate, the
18 connection terminal and the first and second tracks
19 carried by said substrate, the connection terminal
20 located above part of at least one of the first and
21 second diodes with respect to the substrate in a
22 direction perpendicular to the surface of the substrate,
23 and part of each of the first and second tracks are at
24 least partially located between said part of at least one

25

25 of the first and second diodes and the connection
26 terminal.

1 7. The electrical device according to Claim 6,
2 wherein the electronic circuit and the device for
3 protecting against electrostatic discharges are carried
4 by one substrate.

1 8. The electrical device according to Claim 6,
2 further comprising a voltage limiter connected to the
3 first track and to the second track.